

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SY-04

SCCT-02 FBIE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 A-01 PER-05 AID-20 SCA-01 DRC-01

CCO-00 /116 W

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O 291950Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1589

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

USUN NY IMMEDIATE 0288

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3987

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A N B R T W O L I N E T W O

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION GIVEN THIS AFTERNOON AT HOSPITAL BY PABLO CHAO, THE CHINESE WHO ESCAPED FROM KIDNAPPERS, TO U.S. EMBOFF AND CHINESE AMBASSADOR.

A. THERE ARE AT LEAST NINE TERRORISTS IN THE VENZUELAN CONSULATE. THIS ESTIMATE IS BASED ON COUNTING OF FACES CHAO SAW. TWO AT A TIME ARE STATIONED IN THE SECOND STORY ROOM WHERE THE CAPTIVES ARE HELD. THEY ARE REPLACED AT RANDOM INTERVALS.

B. THERE ARE NOW SEVEN CAPTIVES: MISS HUTCHINSON, THE VENEZUELAN CONSUL AND VICE CONSUL, TWO DOMINICAN WOMEN EMPLOYEES OF THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE, A SPANISH NOVITIATE WHO HAD BEEN SERVING AS MR. CHAO'S SECRETARY AND A DOMINICAN MESSENGER. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MISS HUTCHINSON, ALL ARE HIGHLY NERVOUS AND COULD NOT SLEEP NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 27.

C. CHAO SAW NO TV OR RADIO TRANSMITTERS WHILE HE WAS HELD  
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CAPTIVE. HOWEVER, THE KIDNAPPERS HAVE TWO TRANSISTOR RADIOS

KEPT IN A ROOM OTHER THAN WHERE THE HOSTAGES ARE AND THE ROOM WHERE THE HOSTAGES ARE BEING HELD HAS 2 TELEPHONES. IT HAS NO BEDS OR OTHER SLEEPING FACILITIES, ONLY A TABLE WITH CHAIRS AROUND, AND A BOOK SHELF.

D. THE TERRORISTS WHO ARE NOT GUARDING THE CAPTIVES ARE IN ANOTHER SECOND STORY ROOM AT THE BACK OF THE CONSULATE. CHAO DESCRIBED THEM AS "YOUNG AND DARK SKINNED." THEY SHOW NO SIGNS OF FATIGUE. MENDEZ VARGAS APPEARED CALM AND TOTALLY IN CONTROL OF HIMSELF AND THE SITUATION BUT ALL THE OTHERS APPEARED "VERY NERVOUS, VERY TENSE."

E. AT 11:00 A.M. SEPT 28 MENDEZ VARGAS ENTERED THE CAPTIVES ROOM AND TOLD THEM THAT HE INTENDED TO BLOW UP THE BUILDING, USING A BOMB HE HAD PLANTED UNDER THE FLOOR OF THE SECOND STORY, IF THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT MEET HIS DEMANDS. IT WAS AT THAT TIME THAT CHAO DEFINITELY DECIDED TO ESCAPE.

F. THERE ARE STICKS OF SOMETHING THAT LOOKS LIKE DYNAMITE IN THE ROOM WHERE THE CAPTIVES ARE HELD. IT WAS NOT WIRED TO A DETONATOR.

2. CHAO PROVIDED ROUGH OUTLINE OF ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS HE WAS ABLE TO SEE WHICH WE ARE NOW TRYING TO CHECK WITH VENEZUELAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS.

3. COMMENT: CHAO HAS HIS RIGHT ARM IN A CAST, BUT OTHERWISE SHOWED NO EXTERNAL SIGNS OF INJURIES. HE RELATED THE FOREGOING INFORMATION WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE EXCELLENT RECALL.  
HURWITCH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, REPORTS, KIDNAPPING, HOSTAGES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INFORMATION GIVEN BY CHINESE WHO ESCAPED KIDNAPPERS  
**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, CI, US, (PABLO CHAO), (MENDEZ VARGAS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005